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Docket No.: SCEI 3.0-041
(PATENT)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Ebihara et al.

Application No.: 09/815,781

Group Art Unit: 2676

Filed: March 23, 2001

Examiner: A. Quillen

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND
METHOD

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JUL 17 2003

Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 16, 2003, please reconsider the above-identified patent application in view of the following species election. In response to the election requirement, Applicants provisionally elect the invention of Species (a), FIGS. 3-9. Claims 1-11 and 110-140 are drawn to the elected species.

Applicants traverse the Examiner's conclusion that "no claims are generic." Indeed, at least claims 1 and 110 read on all of the species identified by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the instant claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

The Office Action Summary states that the period for reply is set to expire one (1) month from the mailing date thereof, i.e., July 16, 2003. Thus, no fee is believed due. In the event any

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: July 14, 2003

Signature:

(Matthew B. Demier)

fee is due in connection with the present response, the Examiner is authorized to charge Applicant's Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: July 14, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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